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SS CONTRACT ALPHA-AMYLASE MUTANTS WITH ALTERED PROPERTIES

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to variants (minants) of purent Termanyl-like alpha-amylases, which variant has alphaamylase acrivity and exhibits altered stability, in particular at high temperatures and/or at low pH relative, and/or low Ca2+ to the parent alpha-ansylase.

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Alpha-amylase mutants with altered properties

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to variants (mutants) of parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylases, which variant has alpha-amylase activity and exhibits an alteration in at least one of the following properties relative to said parent alpha-amylase: stability under, e.g., high temperature and/or low pH conditions, in particular at low calcium concentrations. The variant of the invention are suitable for starch conversion, ethanol production, laundry wash, dish wash, hard surface cleaning, textile desizing, and/or sweetner production.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Alpha-Amylases (alpha-1,4-glucan-4-glucanohydrolases, E.C. 3.2.1.1) constitute a group of enzymes, which catalyze hydrolysis of starch and other linear and branched 1,4-glucosidic oligo- and polysaccharides.

20 BRIEF DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to provide Termamyllike amylases which variants in comparison to the corresponding parent alpha-amylase, i.e., un-mutated alphaamylase, has alpha-amylase activity and exhibits an alteration in at least one of the following properties relative to said parent alpha-amylase: stability under, e.g., high temperature and/or low pH conditions, in particular at low calcium

30 Nomenclature

In the present description and claims, the conventional one-letter and three-letter codes for amino acid residues are

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used. For ease of reference, alpha-amylase variants of the invention are described by use of the following nomenclature: Original amino acid(s): position(s): substituted amino acid(s)

According to this nomenclature, for instance the s substitution of alanine for asparagine in position 30 is shown :25

Almadasn or agon

a deletion of alamine in the same position is shown as:

Ala30* or A30*

10 and insertion of an additional amino acid residue, such as lysine, is shown as:

Ala30AlaLys or A30AK

A deletion of a consecutive stretch of amino acid residues, such as amino acid residues 30-33, is indicated as (30-33) * or 15 A(A30-N33).

Where a specific alpha-amylase contains a "deletion" in comparison with other alpha-amylases and an insertion is made in such a position this is indicated as:

*36Asp or *36D

20 for insertion of an aspartic acid in position 36.

Multiple mutations are separated by plus signs, i.e.:

Ala30Asp + Glu34Ser or A30N+E34S

representing mutations in positions 30 and 34 substituting alanine and glutamic acid for asparagine and serine,

25 respectively.

When one or more alternative amino acid residues may be inserted in a given position it is indicated as

A30N,B or

ASON or ASOR

Furthermore, when a position suitable for modification is identified herein without any specific modification being suggested, it is to be understood that any amino acid residue may be substituted for the amino acid residue present in the

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position. Thus, for instance, when a modification of an alanine in position 30 is mentioned, but not specified, it is to be understood that the alanine may be deleted or substituted for any other amino acid, i.e., any one of:

5 R,N,D,A,C,Q,E,G,H,I,L,K,M,F,P,S,T,W,Y,V.

Further, "A30X" means any one of the following substitutions:
A30R, A30N, A30D, A30C; A30Q, A30E, A30G, A30H, A30I, A30L,
A30K, A30M, A30F, A30P, A30S, A30T, A30W, A30Y, or A30 V; or
in short: A30R,N,D,C,Q,E,G,H,I,L,K,M,F,P,S,T,W,Y,V.

- If the parent enzyme used for the numbering already has the amino acid residue in question suggested for substitution in that position the following nomenclature is used:
 - "X30N" or "X30N,V" in the case where for instance one or N or V is present in the wildtype.
- 15 Thus, it means that other corresponding parent enzymes are substituted to an "Asn" or "Val" in position 30.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Pigure 1 is an alignment of the amino acid sequences of five parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylases. The numbers on the extreme left designate the respective amino acid sequences as follows:

- 1: SEQ ID NO: 4 (SP722)
- 2: SEQ ID NO: 2 (SP690)
- 25 3: SEQ ID NO: 10 (BAN)
 - 4: SEO ID NO: 8 (BLA)
 - 5: SEQ ID NO: 6 (BSG).

DETAILED DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to provide Termamyllike amylases, which variants have alpha-amylase activity and exhibits altered stability at high temperatures and/or at low pW, in particular at low calcium concentrations.

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Termamyl-like alpha-amylases

A number of alpha-amylases produced by Bacillus spp. are highly homologous (identical) on the amino acid level.

5 The identity of a number of known Bacillus alpha-amylases can be found in the below Table 1:

Table 1

Percent identity AP137 BAN BSG SP690 SP722 AA560 Termamy 8 707 100.0 86.4 66.9 66.5 87.6 86.2 95.5 68.1 AP1378 86.4 100.0 67.1 68.1 95.1 86.6 86.0 59.4 BAN 66.9 67.1 100.0 65.6 67.1 68.8 66.9 80.7 BSG 66.5 68.1 65.6 100.0 67.9 67.1 66.3 65.4 SP690 87.6 95.1 67.1 67.9 100.0 87.2 87.0 69.2 86.6 68.8 67.1 SP722 86.2 87,2 100.0 86.8 70.8 AAS60 95.5 86.0 66.9 66.3 87.0 86.8 100.0 68.3 Terma- 68.1 69.4 80.7 65.4 69.2 70.8 68.3 100.0 mv1

3.0

For instance, the B. licheniformis alpha-amylase comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8 (commercially available as TermamylTM) has been found to be about 81% homologous with the B. amyloliquefaciens alpha-amylase comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 10 and about 65% homologous with the B. stearothermophilus alpha-amylase (BSG) comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 6. Further homologous alpha-amylases include SP650 and SP722 disclosed in WO 95/26397 and further depicted in SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4, respectively, herein. Other amylases are the AA560 alpha-amylase derived from Bacillus sp. and shown in SEQ ID NO: 12, and the #707 alpha-amylase derived from Bacillus sp., shown in SEQ ID NO: 13 and described by Tsukamoto et al., Biochemical and Biophysical Research SC Communications, 151 (1988), pp. 25-31.

The KSM AP1378 alpha-amylase is disclosed in WO 97/00324 (from KAO Corporation).

Still further homologous alpha-amylases include the alpha-amylase produced by the B. licheniformis strain described in 5 EP 0252666 (ATCC 27811), and the alpha-amylases identified in WO 91/00353 and WO 94/18314. Other commercial Termamyl-like alpha-amylases are comprised in the products sold under the following tradenames: OptithermTM and TakathermTM (Solvay); MaxamylTM (available from Gist-brocades/Genencor), Spezym AATM on Spezyme Delta AATM (available from Genencor), and KeistaseTM (available from Daiwa), Dex lo, GC 521 (available from Genencor) and Ultraphlow (from Enzyme Biosystems).

Because of the substantial homology found between those alpha-amylases, they are considered to belong to the same 15 class of alpha-amylases, namely the class of "Termamyl-like alpha-amylases".

Accordingly, in the present context, the term "Termamyllike" alpha-amylase" is intended to indicate an alpha-amylase, in particular Bacillus alpha-amylase, which, at the amino acid level, exhibits a substantial identity to TermamylTM, i.e., the B. licheniformis alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8, herein.

In other words, all the following alpha-amylases, which has the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 25 12 and 13 herein are considered to be "Termamyl-like alpha-amylases". Other Termamyl-like alpha-amylases are alpha-amylases i) which displays at least 60%, such as at least 70%, e.g., at least 75%, or at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95% homology (identity) with at least one of said amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 13, and/or is encoded by a DNA sequence which hybridizes to the DNA

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sequences encoding the above-specified alpha-amylases which are apparent from SEQ ID NOS: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and of the present specification (which encoding sequences encode the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 herein, respectively).

Homology

The homology may be determined as the degree of identity between the two sequences indicating a derivation of the first sequence from the second. The homology may suitably be determined by means of computer programs known in the art such as GAP provided in the GCG program package (described above). Thus, Gap GCGv8 may be used with the default scoring matrix for identity and the following default parameters: GAP creation penalty of 5.0 and GAP extension penalty of 0.3, respectively for nucleic acidic sequence comparison, and GAP creation penalty of 3.0 and GAP extension penalty of 0.1, respectively, for protein sequence comparison. GAP uses the method of Needleman and Wunsch, (1970), J.Mol. Biol. 48, 20 p.443-453, to make alignments and to calculate the identity.

A structural alignment between Texmamyl (SEQ ID No: a) and, e.g., another alpha-amylase may be used to identify equivalent/corresponding positions in other Termamyl-like alpha-amylases. One method of obtaining said structural alignment is to use the File Up programme from the GCG package using default values of gap penalties, i.e., a gap creation penalty of 3.0 and gap extension penalty of 0.1. Other structural alignment methods include the hydrophobic cluster analysis (Gaboriaud et al., (1987), FEBS LETTERS 224, pp. 149-155) and reverse threading (Huber, T; Torda, AE, PROTEIN SCIENCE Vol. 7, No. 1 pp. 142-149 (1998).

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Hybridisation

The oligonucleotide probe used in the characterisation of the Termamyl-like alpha-amylase above may suitably be prepared on the basis of the full or partial nucleotide or amino acid sequence of the alpha-amylase in question.

Suitable conditions for testing hybridisation involve presoaking in 5x8SC and prehybridizing for 1 hour at 40°C in a
solution of 20% formamide, 5xDenhardt's solution, 50mM sodium
phosphate, pH 6.8, and 50mg of denatured sonicated calf thymus

10 DNA, followed by hybridisation in the same solution
supplemented with 100 mM ATP for 18 hours at 40°C, followed by
three times washing of the filter in 2xSSC, 0.2% SDS at 40°C
for 30 minutes (low stringency), preferred at 50°C (medium
stringency), more preferably at 65°C (high stringency), even

15 more preferably at 75°C (very high stringency). More details
about the hybridisation method can be found in Sambrook et
al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd Ed., Cold
Spring Harbor, 1989.

In the present context, "derived from" is intended not only
to indicate an alpha-amylase produced or producible by a
strain of the organism in question, but also an alpha-amylase
encoded by a DNA sequence isolated from such strain and produced in a host organism transformed with said DNA sequence.
Finally, the term is intended to indicate an alpha-amylase,
which is encoded by a DNA sequence of synthetic and/or cDNA
origin and which has the identifying characteristics of the
alpha-amylase in question. The term is also intended to
indicate that the parent alpha-amylase may be a variant of a
naturally occurring alpha-amylase, i.e., a variant, which is
the result of a modification (insertion, substitution,
deletion) of one or more amino acid residues of the naturally
occurring alpha-amylase.

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Parent Termamyl-like Alpha-amylases

According to the invention all Termamy-like alpha-amylases, as defined above, may be used as the parent (i.e., backbone) salpha-amylase. In a preferred embodiment of the invention the parent alpha-amylase is derived from B. licheniformis, e.g., one of those referred to above, such as the B. licheniformis alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8.

10

Parent hybrid Termamyl-like Alpha-amylases

The parent alpha-amylase (i.e., backbone alpha-amylase) may also be a hybrid alpha-amylase, i.e., an alpha-amylase, which comprises a combination of partial amino acid sequences derived from at least two alpha-amylases.

The parent hybrid alpha-amylase may be one, which on the basis of amino acid homology (identity) and/or DNA hybridization (as defined above) can be determined to belong to the Termamyl-like alpha-amylase family. In this case, the hybrid alpha-amylase is typically composed of at least one part of a Termamyl-like alpha-amylase and part(s) of one or more other alpha-amylases selected from Termamyl-like alpha-amylases or non-Termamyl-like alpha-amylases of microbial (bacterial or fungal) and/or mammalian origin.

Thus, the parent hybrid alpha-amylase may comprise a combination of partial amino acid sequences deriving from at least two Termamyl-like alpha-amylases, or from at least one Termamyl-like and at least one non-Termamyl-like bacterial alpha-amylase, or from at least one Termamyl-like and at least one fungal alpha-amylase. The Termamyl-like alpha-amylase from which a partial amino acid sequence derives, may be any of the specific Termamyl-like alpha-amylase referred to herein.

For instance, the parent alpha-amylase may comprise a Cterminal part of an alpha-amylase derived from a strain of B. licheniformis, and a N-terminal part of an alpha-amylase derived from a strain of B. amyloliquefaciens or from a strain s of B. stearothermophilus. For instance, the parent alphaamylase may comprise at least 430 amino acid residues of the C-terminal part of the B. licheniformis alpha-amylase, and may, e.g., comprise a) an amino acid segment corresponding to the 37 N-terminal amino acid residues of the B. amyloliquefa-10 ciens alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 10 and an amino acid segment corresponding to the 445 C-terminal amino acid residues of the B. licheniformis alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8, or a hybrid Termamyl-like alpha-amylase being identical 15 to the Termamyl sequence, i.e., the Bacillus licheniformis alpha-amylase shown in SEQ ID NO: 8, except that the Nterminal 35 amino acid residues (of the mature protein) has been replaced by the N-terminal 33 residues of BAN (mature procein), i.e., the Bacillus amyloliquefaciens alpha-amylase 20 shown in SEQ ID NO: 10; or b) an amino acid segment corresponding to the 68 N-terminal amino acid residues of the B. stearothermophilus alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 6 and an amino acid segment corresponding to the 415 C-terminal amino acid residues of the 25 B. licheniformis alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8.

Another suitable parent hybrid alpha-amylase is the one previously described in WO 96/23874 (from Novo Nordisk) constituting the N-terminus of BAN, Bacillus amyloliquefaciens alpha-amylase (amino acids 1-200 of the mature protein) and the C-terminus from Termamyl (amino acids 301-483 of the mature protein).

In a preferred embodiment of the invention the parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase is a hybrid alpha-amylase of SEO ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 10. Specifically, the parent hybrid Termamyl-like alpha-amylase may be a hybrid alpha-amylase s comprising the 445 C-terminal amino acid residues of the B. licheniformis alpha-amylase shown in SEQ ID NO: 8 and the 37 N-terminal amino acid residues of the alpha-amylase derived from B. amyloliquefaciens shown in SEQ ID NO: 10, which may suitably have further the following mutations: 10 H156Y+A181T+N190F+A209V+Q264S (using the numbering in SEO ID NO: 8). The latter mentioned hybrid is used in the examples below and is referred to as LB174.

Other specifically contemplated parent alpha-amylase include LE174 with fewer mutations, i.e., the right above mentioned hydrid having the following mutations: Al81T+N190F+A209V+Q264S; N190F+A209V+Q264S; A209V+Q264S; Q264S; H156Y+N190F+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V+Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y+A209V-Q264S; H156Y-A209V-Q264S; H156Y-A209V

In a preferred embodiment the parent Termamyl-like alpha amylase is LE174, SP722, or AA560 including any of LE174+G48A+T49I+G107A+I20IF; LE174+M197L;

25 LE174+G48A+T49I+G107A+M197L+I201F, or SP722+D183*+G184*; SP722+D183*+G184*+N195F; SF722+D183*+G184*+M202L; SP722+D183*+G184*+N195F+M202L; BSG+I181*+G182*; BSG+I181*+G182*+N193F; BSG+I181*+G182*+M200L; BSG+I181*+G182*+N193F+M200L;

be part of the invention.

30 AA560+D183*+G184*; AA560+D183*+G184*+N195F; AA560+D183*+G184*+M202L; AA560+D183*+G184*+N195F+M202L.

Other parent alpha-amylases contemplated include LE429, which is LE174 with an additional substitution in T201F.

According to the invention LE335 is the alpha-amylase, which in comparison to LE429 has additional substitutions in T491+9107A; LE399 is LE335+G48A, i.e., LE174, with G48A+T491+G107A+I201F.

5

Altered properties

The following section discusses the relationship between mutations, which are present in variants of the invention, and desirable alterations in properties (relative to those of a parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase), which may result therefrom.

As mentioned above the invention relates to Termamyl-like alpha-amylases with altered properties (as mentioned above), in particular at high temperatures and/or at low pH, in particular at low calcium concentrations.

In the context of the present invention "high temperature" means temperatures from 70-120°C, preferably 80-100°C, especially 85-95°C.

In the context of the present invention the term "low pH" 20 means from a pH in the range from 4-6, preferably 4.2-5.5, especially 4.5-5.

In the context of the present invention the term "high ph" means from a pH in the range from 8-11, especially 8.5-10.6.

In the context of the present invention the term "low calcium concentration" means free calcium levels lower than 60 ppm, preferably 40 ppm, more preferably 25 ppm, especially 5 ppm calcium.

Parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase specifically contemplated in connection with going through the specifically contemplated altered properties are the above mentioned parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase and parent hydrid Termamyl-like alpha-amylases.

The Termamyl® alpha-amylase is used as the starting point, but corresponding positions in, e.g., the SP722, BSG, BAN, AA560, SP690, KSM AP1378, and #707 should be understood as disclosed and specifically comtemplated too.

In a preferred embodiment the variant of the invention has in particular at high temperatures and/or at low pH.

In an aspect the invention relates to variant with altered properties as mentioned above.

In the first aspect a variant of a parent Termamyl-like 10 alpha-amylase, comprising an alteration at one or more positions (using SEQ ID NO: 8 for the amino acid numbering) selected from the group of:

- 49, 60, 104, 132, 161, 170, 176, 179, 180, 181, 183, 200, 203, 204, 207, 212, 237, 239, 250, 280, 298, 318, 374, 385, 393, 15 402, 406, 427, 430, 440, 444, 447, 482, wherein
 - (a) the alteration(s) are independently
 - (i) an insertion of an amino acid downstream of the amino acid which occupies the position,
- (ii) a deletion of the amino acid which occupies the position, or
 - (iii) a substitution of the amino acid which occupies the position with a different amino acid,
- (b) the variant has alpha-amylase activity and (c) each 25 position corresponds to a position of the amino acid sequence of the parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8.

In Termanyl® (SEQ ID NO: 8) such corresponding positions are:

30 T49; D60; N104; E132; D161; K170; K175; G179; K180; A181; D183; D200; Y203; D204; D207; 1212; K237; S239; E250; N280; Q298; L318; Q374; E385; Q393; Y402; H406; L427 D430; V440; E444; E447; 0482.

In SP722 (SEQ ID NO: 4) the corresponding positions are:
T51; D62; N106; D134; D163; Q172; K179; G184; K185; A186;
D188; D205; M208; D209; X212; L217, K242, S244, N255, N285,
S303, M323; D387, N395; Y404; H408; I429; D432; V442; K446;
5 Q449; K484.

Corresponding positions in other parent alpha-amylases can be found by alignment as described above and shown in the alignment in Fig. 1.

In a preferred embodiment the variant of the invention to (using SEQ ID NO: 8 (Termamyl $^{\infty}$) for the numbering) has one or more of the following substitutions;

T491; D60N; N104D; E132A,V,P; D161N; K170Q; K176R; G179N; K180T; A181N; D183N; D200N; X203Y; D204S; D207V,E,L,G; X212I; K237P; S239W; E250G,F; N280S; X298Q; L318M; Q374R; E385V; Q393R; Y402F; H406L,W; L427I D430N; V440A; N444R,K; E447Q,K; Q482K.

In a preferred embodiment the variant of the invention (using SEQ ID NO: 4 (SP722) for the numbering) has one or more of the following substitutions:

T511; D62N; N106D; D134A,V,P; D163N; X172Q; K179R; G184N; K185T; A186N; D188N; D205N; M208Y; D209S; X212V,E,L,G; L2171, K242P, S244W, N255G,F, N285S, S303Q, K323M; D387V, N395R; Y404F; H408L,W; X429I; D432N; V442A; X446R,K; X449Q,K; X484K, using SEQ ID NO: 4 (SP722) for the numbering.

Preferred double, triple and multi-mutations - using SEQ ID 25 NO: 8 as the basis for the numbering - are selected from the group consisting of:

T491+D60N; T491+D60N+E132A; T491+D60N+E132V; T491+D60N+E132V+K170Q; T491+D60N+E132A+K170Q;

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R; T49I+D60N+E132A+Ki70Q+K176R;

30 T491+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V; T491+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V; T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207B; T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207B; 32/0 02/10355 PCT/DK01/00J88

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T49I+D60N+B132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G;

T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G;

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207E+E250G:

T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G;

5 T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S:

T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S;

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S:

T49I+D60N+E132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S.

T491+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M;

16 T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M;

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N286S+L318M:

T49I+D50N+B132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+B250G+N280S+L318M:

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R;

T49I+D60N+B132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+B250G+N280S+L318M+O374R;

15 T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R:

T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+

T491+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+

20 E385V;

E385V;

E385V:

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+ E385V:

T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318N+O374R+

25 T49I+D60R+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+ E385V+Q393R;

T49I+D60N+R132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+ R385V+0393R:

T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+

30 H385V+0393R:

T49T+D60N+B132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385 V+ 0393R:

PC'T/DK01/00488

- T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+ E385V+Q393R+X402F;
- T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
- 5 T491+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+B250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F:
 - T491+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385 V+ O393R+Y402F;
 - T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
- 10 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;
 - T491+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+C393R+Y402F+H406L;
 - T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+C393R+Y402F+H406L;
- 15 T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385 V+ C393R+Y402F+H406L:
 - T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+B250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+ E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I:
 - T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+K250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+
- 20 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 - T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I:
 - T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385 V+ Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
- 25 T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+ E385V+O393R+X402F+H406L+L427I+V440A:
 - T491+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
 - T49I+D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
- 30 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A; T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385 V+ Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;

D60N+E132A; D60N+E132V; D60N+E132V+K170Q; D60N+E132A+K170Q; D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R; D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V; T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V;

5 D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207F; T49I+D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E; D60N+E132V+K1700+K176R+D207V+E256G;

D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G;

D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207E+F250G:

- 10 D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G;
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S;
 - D60N+H132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+B250G+N280S;
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S; D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S;
- 15 D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M;
- D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M;
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M;
 - D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M;
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;
- 20 D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;
 - D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R; D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
 - D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
- 25 D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
 - D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V; D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
 - E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
 - D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+B250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
- 30 E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
 - D60N+E132V+K176Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y462F;

17

D60N+E132A+K1700+K176R+D207B+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+E385V+ 0393R+Y402F:

D60N+B132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L:

5 D60N+E132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L:

D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L:

D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+

- 10 0393R+Y402F+H406L;
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+B250G+N280S+L318M+O373R+ B385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 - D60N+E132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I:
- 15 D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I: D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+ 0393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I:
 - D60N+E132V+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O373R+
- 20 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A; -D60N+E132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A:
 - D60N+E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+ E385V+C393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
- 25 D60N+E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+E385V+ Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
 - B132V+K1700: B132A+K170Q+K176R;
 - E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V; E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V;
- 30 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E; E132A+K170O+K176R+D207E; E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G; B13ZA+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G; E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G; E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G;

- E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S; E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S; E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S;
- 5132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S; 5 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M;
- E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M;
 - E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M;
- E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M;
- E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R; 10 E132A+K170O+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R;
- E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;
 - E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;
 - E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+B385V;
 - E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
- 15 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V; E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L315M+Q374R+E365V;
 - E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+E385V+Q393R;
 - E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;
 - E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;
- 20 E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;
 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
 - E132A+K179Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F:
- 25 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F:
 - E132A+K170Q+K176E+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374E+E385V+Q393E+Y402F;
 - B132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
- 30 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;
 - E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L;

E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H496L;
E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+
O393R+Y402F+H406L;

- 5 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207R+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+
- 10 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I; E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+ Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I; E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+ E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
- 15 E132A+K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L4271+V440A;
 E132V+K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L4271+V440A;
 E132A+K170O+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+
- 20 Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;

K170Q+K176R; K170Q+K176R+D207V; K170Q+K176R+D207E; K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G; K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L518M;

- 25 K170Q+K176R+D207V+B250G+N280S+L318M; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R; K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V; K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
- 30 K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R; K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F; K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;

K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406 L;

K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L;

- 5 K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L4271;
 K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L4271;
 K170Q+K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+
- 10 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+R406L+L427I+V440A;
 K170Q+K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+R406L+L427I+V440A;
 K176R+D207V; K176R+D207E; K176R+D207V+E250G;
 K176R+D207E+E250G; K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S;
- 15 K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S; K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L316M; K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M; K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R; K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R; K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
- 20 K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;
 K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;
 K176R+D207B+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;
 K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
 K176R+D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
- 25 K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;
 K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 K176R+D207B+B250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+
 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 30 K176R+D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O373R+
 - E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A; K176R+D207F+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+ E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;

33/O 02/10355 PC"T/DK01/00J88

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D207V+E250G; D207E+E250G;

D207V+E250G+N280S; D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M; D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R;

5 D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R:

D207E+E250G+N280S+L318N+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+E385V+O393R+Y402F+

10 D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;

D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;

D207V+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402P+H406L+L427I;

D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L4271:

15 D207V+B250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440 A:

D207E+E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+O393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+

E250G+N280S+L318M:

E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R:

V440A:

20 E250G+N280S+L318M+O374R+E385V:

E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;

E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;

B250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+B385V+Q393R+Y402P+H406L;

E250G+N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y4C2F+H4O6L+L427I;

E250G+N280S;

25 E250G+N280S+L318M+Q373R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;

N280S+L318M; N280S+L318M+Q374R; N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V:

N280S+L318M+O374R+E385V+O393R;

N280S+L318M+Q374R+B385V+Q393R+Y402P;

N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;

30 N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;

N280S+L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;

L318M+Q374R; L318M+Q374R+E385V; L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R;

22

- L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
- L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;
- L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I:
- L318M+Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
- 5 Q374R+E385V; Q374R+E385V+Q393R; Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F;
 - Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;
 - Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 - Q374R+E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
 - E385V+Q393R; E385V+Q393R+Y402F; E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L;
- 10 E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 - E385V+Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A;
 - Q393R+Y402F; Q393R+Y402F+H406L; Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I;
 - Q393R+Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A; Y402F+H406L;
 - Y402F+H406L+L427I; Y402F+H406L+L427I+V440A; H406L+L427I;
- 15 H406L+L427I+V440A; L427I+V440A;
 - N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+ H406W+D430N+N444K+B4470+0482K.
 - D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+D430N+N444K+H447Q+Q482K;
- 20 D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D2048+K237P+S239W+H406W+
 - D430N+N444K+E447Q+Q482K;
 - D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+KZ37P+S239W+H406W+
 - D430N+B4470+0482K;
 - N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239N+
- 25 H406W+D430N+E447Q+Q482K;
 - D151N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239N+H406W+D430N+E447Q+Q482K;
 - N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S235W+ H406W+D430N;
- 30 D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+ D430N;
 - H406W+D430N; N444K+E447Q+Q482K; E447Q+Q482K;
 - N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+

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H406W+D430N+N444R+N444K+E447K+O482K: U161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H405W+ D430N+N444R+N444K+E447K+O482K:

N164D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D2048+K237P+S239W;

5 D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W; H406W+D439N: N444K+B447K+O482K; E447K+O482K; N104D+D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W; N104D+D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P; N104D+D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D2048:

10 D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W: D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P; D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D2048; K237P+S239W, using SEQ ID NO: 8 for the numbering.

In a preferred embodiment the variant has the following 15 substitutions: K170Q+D207V+N280S; B132A+D207V; D207E+E250G+H406L+L427I; D207V+L318M; D60N+D207V+L318M;

T49I+E132V+V440A; T49I+K176R+D207V+Y402F; Q374R+E385V+O393R; N190F+A209V+Q264S; G48A+T49I+G107A+I201F; T49I+G107A+I201F; G48A+T49I+I201F; G48A+T49I+G107A; T49I+I201F; T49I+G107A;

20 G48A+T49I:

D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+ D430N+N444K+B447Q+Q482K using SEQ ID NO: 8 for the numbering. Specific variant include: LE399; LE174+G48A+T49I+G107A; LE174+G48A+T49I+I201F; LE174+G48A+G107A+I201F;

25 LE174+T49I+G107A+T201F; LE174+G48A+T49I; LE174+G48A; LE174+G107A+I201F; LE174+I201F, are specifically contemplated variants of the invention.

Stability

In the context of the present invention, mutations 30 (including amino acid substitutionsa and deletion) of importance with respect to achieving altered stability, in particular improved stability (i.e., higher or lower), at

especially high temperatures (i.e., 70-120°C) and/or extreme pH (i.e. low or high pH, i.e, pH 4-6 or pH 8-11, respectively), in particular at free (i.e., unbound, therefore in solution) calcium concentrations below 60 ppm, include any of the mutations listed in the "Altered properties" section. The stability may be determined as described in the "Materials & Methods" section below.

General mutations in variants of the invention

A variant of the invention may in one embodiment comprise one or more modifications in addition to those outlined above. Thus, it may be advantageous that one or more Proline (Pro) residues present in the part of the alpha-amylase variant which is modified is/are replaced with a non-Proline residue which may be any of the possible, naturally occurring non-Proline residues, and which preferably is an Alanine, Clycine, Serine, Threonine, Valine or Leucine.

Analogously, in one embodiment one or more Cysteine residues present in the parent alpha-amylase may be replaced with a non-Cysteine residue such as Serine, Alanine, Threonine, Glycine, Valine or Leucine.

Furthermore, a variant of the invention may - either as the only modification or in combination with any of the above outlined modifications - be modified so that one or more Asp and/or Glu present in an amino acid fragment corresponding to the amino acid fragment 185-209 of SEQ ID NO: 10 is replaced by an Asn and/or Gln, respectively. Also of interest is the replacement, in the Termamyl-like alpha-amylase, of one or more of the Lys residues present in an amino acid fragment corresponding to the amino acid fragment 185-209 of SEQ ID NO: 10 by an Arg.

25

It is to be understood that the present invention encompasses variants incorporating two or more of the above outlined modifications.

Furthermore, it may be advantageous to introduce mutations in one or more of the following positions (using SEQ ID NO: 8 (Texmamyl) for the numbering):

M15, V128, A111, H133, W138, T149, M197, N188, A209, A210, H405, T412, in particular the following single, double or triple or multi mutations:

10 M15X, in particular M15T, L;

V128X, in particular V128E;

H133X, in particular H133Y;

N188X, in particular N188S,T,P; M197X, in particular M197T,L;

15 A209X, in particular A209V;

M197T/W138F; M197T/W138Y; M15T/H133Y/N188S;

M15/V128E/H133Y/N188S; E119C/S130C; D124C/R127C; H133Y/T149I; G475K, H133Y/S187D; H133Y/A209V.

20 Methods for preparing alpha-amylase variants of the invention

Several methods for introducing mutations into genes are known in the art. After a brief description of cloning of alpha-amylase-encoding DNA sequences, methods for generating mutations at specific sites within the alpha-amylase-encoding 25 sequence will be discribed.

Clouing a DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase

The DNA sequence encoding a parent alpha-amylase may be isolated from any cell or microorganism producing the alpha-amylase in question, using various methods well known in the art. First, a genomic DNA and/or cDNA library should be constructed using chromosomal DNA or messenger RNA from the organism that produces the alpha-amylase to be studied. Then,

if the amino acid sequence of the alpha-amylase is known, homologous, labeled oligonucleotide probes may be synthesized and used to identify alpha-amylase-encoding clones from a genomic library prepared from the organism in question. Alternatively, a labeled oligonucleotide probe containing sequences homologous to a known alpha-amylase gene could be used as a probe to identify alpha-amylase-encoding clones, using hybridization and washing conditions of lower stringency.

Yet another method for identifying alpha-amylase-encoding clones would involve inserting fragments of genomic ENA into an expression vector, such as a plasmid, transforming alpha-amylase-negative bacteria with the resulting genomic DNA library, and then plating the transformed bacteria onto agar containing a substrate for alpha-amylase, thereby allowing to clones expressing the alpha-amylase to be identified.

Alternatively, the DNA sequence encoding the enzyme may be prepared synthetically by established standard methods, e.g., the phosphoroamidite method described by S.L. Beaucage and M.H. Caruthers, Tetrahedron Letters 22, 1981, pp. 1859-1869, or the method described by Matthes et al., The EMBO J. 3, 1984, pp. 801-805. In the phosphoroamidite method, oligonucleotides are synthesized, e.g., in an automatic DNA synthesizer, purified, annealed, ligated and cloned in appropriate vectors.

Finally, the DNA sequence may be of mixed genomic and synthetic origin, mixed synthetic and cDNA origin or mixed genomic and cDNA origin, prepared by ligating fragments of synthetic, genomic or cDNA origin (as appropriate, the fragments corresponding to various parts of the entire DNA sequence), in accordance with standard techniques. The DNA sequence may also be prepared by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using specific primers, for instance as described in US 4,683,202 or R.K. Saiki et al., Science 239, 1988, pp. 487-10

Site-directed mutagenesis

Once an alpha-amylase-encoding DNA sequence has been isolated, and desirable sites for mutation identified, muta-15 tions may be introduced using synthetic oligonucleotides. These aligonucleotides contain nucleotide sequences flanking the desired mutation sites; mutant nucleotides are inserted during oligonucleotide synthesis. In a specific method, a single-stranded gap of DNA, bridging the alpha-amylase-20 encoding sequence, is created in a vector carrying the alphaamylase gene. Then the synthetic nucleotide, bearing the desired mutation, is annealed to a homologous portion of the single-stranded DNA. The remaining gap is then filled in with DNA polymerase I (Klenow fragment) and the construct is 25 ligated using T4 ligase. A specific example of this method is described in Morinaga et.al. (1984). US 4,760,025 disclose the introduction of oligonuclectides encoding multiple mutations by performing minor alterations of the cassette. However, an even greater variety of mutations can be introduced at any one 30 time by the Morinaga method, because a multitude of oligonucleotides, of various lengths, can be introduced.

Another method for introducing mutations into alphaamylase-encoding DNA sequences is described in Nelson and Long (1989). It involves the 3-step generation of a PCR fragment containing the desired mutation introduced by using a chemically synthesized DNA strand as one of the primers in the PCR reactions. From the PCR-generated fragment, a DNA fragment carrying the mutation may be isolated by cleavage with restriction endonucleases and reinserted into an expression plasmid.

Alternative methods for providing variants of the invention include gene shuffling, e.g., as described in WO 95/22625

10 (from Affymax Technologies N.V.) or in WO 96/00343 (from Novo Nordisk A/S), or other corresponding techniques resulting in a hybrid enzyme comprising the mutation(s), e.g., substitution(s) and/or deletion(s), in question. Examples of parent alpha-amylases, which suitably may be used for providing a hybrid with the desired mutations(s) according to the invention include the KSM-K36 and KSM-K38 alpha-amylases disclosed in EP 1,022,334 (hereby incorporated by reference).

Expression of alpha-amylase variants

According to the invention, a DNA sequence encoding the variant produced by methods described above, or by any alternative methods known in the art, can be expressed, in enzyme form, using an expression vector which typically includes control sequences encoding a promoter, operator, ribosome binding site, translation initiation signal, and, optionally, a repressor gene or various activator genes.

The recombinant expression vector carrying the DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase variant of the invention may be any vector, which may conveniently be subjected to recombinant DNA procedures, and the choice of vector will often depend on the host cell into which it is to be introduced. Thus, the vector may be an autonomously replicating vector, i.e., a vector which exists as an extrachromosomal entity, the replication of

which is independent of chromosomal replication, e.g., a plasmid, a bacteriophage or an extrachromosomal element, minichromosome or an artificial chromosome. Alternatively, the vector may be one which, when introduced into a host cell, is integrated into the host cell genome and replicated together with the chromosome(s) into which it has been integrated.

In the vector, the DNA sequence should be operably connected to a suitable promoter sequence. The promoter may be any DNA sequence, which shows transcriptional activity in the 10 host cell of choice and may be derived from genes encoding proteins either homologous or heterologous to the host cell. Examples of suitable promoters for directing the transcription of the DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase variant of the invention, especially in a bacterial host, are the promoter of 15 the lac operon of E.coli, the Streptomyces coelicolor agarase gene dagA promoters, the promoters of the Bacillus licheniformis alpha-amylase gene (amyL), the promoters of the Bacillus stearothermophilus maltogenic amylase gene (amyM), the promoters of the Bacillus amyloliquefaciens alpha-amylase 20 (amyQ), the promoters of the Bacillus subtilis xylA and xylB genes etc. For transcription in a fungal host, examples of useful promoters are those derived from the gene encoding A. oryzas TAKA amylase, Rhizomucor miehei aspartic proteinase, A. niger neutral alpha-amylase, A. niger acid stable alpha-25 amylase, A. niger glucoamylase, Rhizomucor miehei lipase, A. oryzae alkaline protease, A. oryzae triose phosphate isomerase or A. nidulans acetamidase.

The expression vector of the invention may also comprise a suitable transcription terminator and, in eukaryotes, poly30 adenylation sequences operably connected to the DNA sequence encoding the alpha-amylase variant of the invention. Termination and polyadenylation sequences may suitably be derived from the same sources as the promoter.

The vector may further comprise a DNA sequence enabling the vector to replicate in the host cell in question. Examples of such sequences are the origins of replication of plasmids pUC19, pACYC177, pUB110, pE194, pAMB1 and pLJ702.

- The vector may also comprise a selectable marker, e.g. a gene the product of which complements a defect in the host cell, such as the dal genes from B. subtilis or B. licheniformis, or one which confers antibiotic resistance such as ampicillin, kanamycin, chloramphenicol or tetracyclin resistance. Furthermore, the vector may comprise Aspergillus selection markers such as amds, argB, niaD and sC, a marker giving rise to hygromycin resistance, or the selection may be accomplished by co-transformation, e.g., as described in WO 91/17243.
- While intracellular expression may be advantageous in some respects, e.g., when using certain bacteria as host cells, it is generally preferred that the expression is extracellular. In general, the Bacillus alpha-amylases mentioned herein comprise a preregion permitting secretion of the expressed protease into the culture medium. If desirable, this preregion may be replaced by a different preregion or signal sequence, conveniently accomplished by substitution of the DNA sequences encoding the respective preregions.

The procedures used to ligate the DNA construct of the invention encoding an alpha-amylase variant, the promoter, terminator and other elements, respectively, and to insert them into suitable vectors containing the information necessary for replication, are well known to persons skilled in the art (cf., for instance, Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Barbor, 1989).

The cell of the invention, either comprising a DNA construct or an expression vector of the invention as defined above, is advantageously used as a host cell in the

recombinant production of an alpha-amylase variant of the invention. The cell may be transformed with the DNA construct of the invention encoding the variant, conveniently by integrating the DNA construct (in one or more copies) in the host chromosome. This integration is generally considered to be an advantage as the DNA sequence is more likely to be stably maintained in the cell. Integration of the DNA constructs into the host chromosome may be performed according to conventional methods, e.g., by homologous or heterologous recombination.

10 Alternatively, the cell may be transformed with an expression vector as described above in connection with the different types of host cells.

The cell of the invention may be a cell of a higher organism such as a mammal or an insect, but is preferably a microbial cell, e.g., a bacterial or a fungal (including yeast) cell.

Examples of suitable bacteria are Gram-positive bacteria such as Bacillus subtilis, Bacillus licheniformis, Bacillus lentus, Bacillus brevis, Bacillus stearothermophilus, Bacillus 20 alkalophilus, Bacillus amyloliquefaciens, Bacillus coagulans, Bacillus circulans, Bacillus lautus, Bacillus megaterium, Bacillus thuringiensis, or Streptomyces lividans or Streptomyces murinus, or grammegative bacteria such as E.coli. The transformation of the bacteria may, for instance, be effected by protoplast transformation or by using competent cells in a manner known per se.

The yeast organism may favorably be selected from a species of Saccharomyces or Schizosaccharomyces, e.g. Saccharomyces cerevisiae. The filamentous fungus may advantageously belong to a species of Aspergillus, e.g., Aspergillus oryzae or Aspergillus niger. Fungal cells may be transformed by a process involving protoplast formation and transformation of the protoplasts followed by regeneration of the cell wall in a

manner known per se. A suitable procedure for transformation of Aspergillus host cells is described in EP 238 023.

In a yet further aspect, the present invention relates to a method of producing an alpha-amylase variant of the invention, which method comprises cultivating a host cell as described above under conditions conducive to the production of the variant and recovering the variant from the cells and/or culture medium.

The medium used to cultivate the cells may be any conventional medium suitable for growing the host cell in question
and obtaining expression of the alpha-amylase variant of the
invention. Suitable media are available from commercial
suppliers or may be prepared according to published recipes
(e.g., as described in catalogues of the American Type Culture
15 Collection).

The alpha-amylase variant secreted from the host cells may conveniently be recovered from the culture medium by well-known procedures, including separating the cells from the medium by centrifugation or filtration, and precipitating proteinaceous components of the medium by means of a salt such as ammonium sulphate, followed by the use of chromatographic procedures such as ion exchange chromatography, affinity chromatography, or the like.

25 Industrial Applications

The alpha-amylase variants of this invention possess valuable properties allowing for a variety of industrial applications. In particular, enzyme variants of the invention are applicable as a component in washing, dishwashing, and hard surface cleaning detergent compositions.

Variant of the invention with altered properties may be used for starch processes, in particular starch conversion, especially liquefaction of starch (see, e.g., US 3,912,590, EP

patent publications Nos. 252 730 and 63 909, WO 99/19467, and WO 96/28567 all references hereby incorporated by reference). Also contemplated are compositions for starch conversion purposes, which may beside the variant of the invention also comprise a 5 AMG, pullulanase, and other alpha-amylases.

Further, variants of the invention are also particularly useful in the production of sweeteners and ethanol (see, e.g., US patent no. 5,231,017 hereby incorporated by reference), such as fuel, drinking and industrial ethanol, from starch or whole grains.

A variant of the invention may also be used for textile desizing (see, e.g., WO 95/21247, US patent 4,643,736, EP 119,920 hereby in corporate by reference).

15 Detergent compositions

As mentioned above, variants of the invention may suitably be incorporated in detergent compositions. Reference is made, for example, to WO 96/23874 and WO 97/07202 for further details concerning relevant ingredients of detergent compositions (such as laundry or dishwashing detergents), appropriate methods of formulating the variants in such detergent compositions, and for examples of relevant types of detergent compositions.

Detergent compositions comprising a variant of the invention 25 may additionally comprise one or more other enzymes, such as a protease, a lipase, a peroxidase, another amylolytic enzyme, glucoamylase, maltogenic amylase, CGTase and/or a cellulase, mannanase (such as Mannaway* from Novozymes, Denmark)), pectinase, pectine lyase, cutinase, laccase, and/or another 30 alpha-amylase.

Alpha-amylase variants of the invention may be incorporated in detergents at conventionally employed concentrations. It is at present contemplated that a variant of the invention may be incorporated in an amount corresponding to 0.00001-10 mg (calculated as pure, active enzyme protein) of alpha-amylase per liter of wash/dishwash liquor using conventional dosing levels of detergent.

Compositions

The invention also related to composition comprising a variant of the invention, and in a preferred embodiment also a B. stearothermophilus alpha-amylase (BSG), in particular a variant thereof.

In another embodient the composition comprises beside a variant of the invention a glucoamylase, in particular a glucoamylase originating from Aspergillus niger (e.g., the Gi or G2 A. niger AMG disclosed in Boel et al. (1984),

- 15 "Glucoamylases G1 and G2 from Aspergillus niger are synthesized from two different but closely related mRNAs", EMBO J. 3 (5), p. 1097-1102, or a variant therefore, in particular a variant disclosed in WO 00/04126 or WO 01/04273 or the Talaromyces emersonii AMG disclosed in WO 99/28448.
- A specific combination is LE399 and a variant disclosed in WC 00/04136 or Wo 01/04273, in particular a variant with ce or more of the following substitutions:
 - N9A, S56A, V59A, S119F, A246T, N313G, E342T, A393R, S394R, Y402F, E408R, in particular a variant with all mutation.
- 25 In an embodiment the composition of the invention also comprises a pullulanase, in particular a Bacillus pullulanase.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

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Enzymes:

Bacillus licheniformis alpha-amylase shown in SEQ ID NO: 8 and also available from Novozymes.

5 AA560: SEQ ID NO: 12; disclosed in WO 00/60060; deposited on 25th January 1999 at DSMZ and assigned the DSMZ no. 12649.

AA560 were deposited by the inventors under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure at Deutshe Sammmlung von Microorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH (DSMZ), Mascheroder Weg 1b, D-38124 Braunschweig DE.

LB medium (In 1 liter H2O: 10 g bacto-tryptone, 5 g bacto-yeast extract, 10 g NaCl, pH adjusted to 7.0 w. NaOH, autoclaved).

TY agar plates (In 1 liter H20: 16 g bacto-tryptone, 10 g bacto-yeast extract, 5 g NaCl, pH adjusted to 7.0 w. NaOH, and 15 g bacto-agar is added prior to autoclaving).

10% Lugol solution (Iodine/Potassium iodine solution; made by 10-fold dil. in H2O of stock: Sigma Cat. no. L 6146).

20 Bacillus subtilis SHA273: see WO 95/10603

Plasmids

pDN1528 contains the complete gene encoding Termamyl, amyL, the expression of which is directed by its own promoter.

25 Further, the plasmid contains the origin of replication, ori, from plasmid pUB110 and the cat gene from plasmid pC194 conferring resistance towards chloramphenicol. pDN1528 is shown in Fig. 9 of WO 95/23874.

30 Methods:

Low pH filter assay

Bacillus libraries are plated on a sandwich of cellulose acetate (OE 67, Schleicher & Schuell, Dassel, Germany) - and

nitrocellulose filters (Protran-Ba 85, Schleicher & Schuell, Dassel, Germany) on TY agar plates with 10 micro g/ml chloramphenicol at 37°C for at least 21 hours. The cellulose acetate layer is located on the TY agar plate.

Each filter sandwich is specifically marked with a needle after plating, but before incubation in order to be able to localize positive variants on the filter, and the nitrocellulose filter with bound variants is transferred to a container with citrate buffer, pH 4.5 and incubated at 80°C 10 for 20 minutes (when screening for variants in the wild type backbone) or 85oC for 60 minutes (when screening for variants in the LE399 backbone). The cellulose acetate filters with colonies are stored on the TY-plates at room temperature until use. After incubation, residual activity is detected on assay 15 plates containing 1% agarose, 0.2% starch in citrate buffer, pH 6.0. The assay plates with nitrocellulose filters are marked the same way as the filter sandwich and incubated for 2 hours at 50°C. After removal of the filters the assay plates are stained with 10% Lugol solution. Starch degrading variants 20 are detected as white spots on dark blue background and then identified on the storage plates. Positive variants are rescreened twice under the same conditions as the first screen.

Secondary screening

Positive transformants after rescreening are picked from the atorage plate and tested in a secondary plate assay.

Positive transformants are grown for 22 hours at 37°C in 5 ml

LB + chloramphenicol. The Bacillus culture of each positive transformant and as a control a clone expressing the corresponding backbone are incubated in citrate buffer, pE 4.5 at 90°C and samples are taken at 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 60 and 80 minutes. A 3 micro liter sample is spotted on an assay plate.

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The assay plate is stained with 10% Lugol solution. Improved variants are seen as variants with higher residual activity (detected as halos on the assay plate) than the backbone. The improved variants are determined by nucleotide sequencing.

Stability assay of unpurified variants:

Bacillus cultures expressing the variants to be analysed are grown for 21 hours at 37°C in 10 ml LB+chloramphenicol. 800 micro liter culture is mixed with 200 micro 1 citrate buffer. 10 pH 4.5. A number of 70 micro l aliquots corresponding to the number of sample time points are made in PCR tubes and incubated at 70°C (for variants in the wt backbone) or 90°C (for variants in LE399) for various time points (typically 5. 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 minutes) in a PCR machine. The 0 min 15 sample is not incubated at high temperature. Activity in the sample is measured by transferring 20 micro 1 to 200 micro 1 of the alpha-amylase PNP-G7 substrate MFR3 ((Boehringer Mannheim Cat. no. 1660730) as described below under "Assays for Alpha-Amylase Activity". Results are plotted as percentage 20 activity (relative to the 0 time point) versus time, or stated as percentage residual activity after incubation for a certain period of time.

Fermentation and purification of alpha-amylase variants

A B. subtilis strain harbouring the relevant expression plasmid is streaked on a LB-agar plate with 10 micro g/ml kanamycin from -80°C stock, and grown overnight at 37°C. The colonies are transferred to 100 ml PS-1 media supplemented with 10 micro g/ml chloamphinical in a 500 ml shaking flask.

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Composition of PS-1 medium:

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Pearl sugar 100 g/l
Soy Bean Meal 40 g/l
Na2HP04, 12 H20 10 g/l
FluronicTM PE 6100 0.1 g/l
CaCO3 5 g/l

The culture is shaken at 37°C at 270 rpm for 5 days.

Cells and cell debris are removed from the fermentation broth by centrifugation at 4500 rpm in 20-25 minutes.

Afterwards the supernatant is filtered to obtain a completely clear solution. The filtrate is concentrated and washed on a UF-filter (10000 cut off membrane) and the buffer is changed to 20mM Acetate pH 5.5. The UF-filtrate is applied on a S-sepharose F.F. and elution is carried out by step elution with 15 0.2M NaCl in the same buffer. The eluate is dialysed against 10mM Tris, pH 9.0 and applied on a Q-sepharose F.F. and eluted with a linear gradient from 0-0.3M NaCl over 6 column volumes. The fractions that contain the activity (measured by the Phadebas assay) are pooled, pH was adjusted to pH 7.5 and remaining color was removed by a treatment with 0.5% W/vol. active coal in 5 minutes.

Stability determination of purified variants

All stability trials of purified variants are made using 25 the same set up. The method is as follows:

The enzyme is incubated under the relevant conditions (1-4). Samples are taken at various time points, e.g., after 0, 5, 10, 15 and 30 minutes and diluted 25 times (same dilution for all taken samples) in assay buffer (0.1M 50mM Britton buffer 9H 7.3) and the activity is measured using the Phadebas assay (Pharmacia) under standard conditions pH 7.3, 37°C.

The activity measured before incubation (0 minutes) is used as reference (190%). The decline in percent is calculated as a

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function of the incubation time. The table shows the residual activity after, e.g., 30 minutes of incubation.

Specific activity determination

The specific activity is determined using the Phadebas assay (Pharmacia) as activity/mg enzyme. The manufactures instructions are followed (see also below under "Assay for α -amylase activity).

10 Assays for Alpha-Amylase Activity

1. Phadebas assay

Alpha-amylase activity is determined by a method employing Phadebas® tablets as substrate. Phadebas tablets (Phadebas® Amylase Test, supplied by Pharmacia Diagnostic) contain a cross-linked insoluble blue-colored starch polymer, which has been mixed with bovine serum albumin and a buffer substance and tabletted.

For every single measurement one tablet is suspended in a tube containing 5 ml 50 mM Britton-Robinson buffer (50 mM acetic acid, 50 mM phosphoric acid, 50 mM boric acid, 0.1 mM CaCl2, pH adjusted to the value of interest with NAOM). The test is performed in a water bath at the temperature of interest. The alpha-amylase to be tested is diluted in x ml of 50 mM Britton-Robinson buffer. 1 ml of this alpha-amylase solution is added to the 5 ml 50 mM Britton-Robinson buffer. The starch is hydrolyzed by the alpha-amylase giving soluble blue fragments. The absorbance of the resulting blue sclution, measured spectrophotometrically at 620 mm, is a function of the alpha-amylase activity.

It is important that the measured 620 nm absorbance after 10 or 15 minutes of incubation (testing time) is in the range of 0.2 to 2.0 absorbance units at 620 nm. In this absorbance range there is linearity between activity and absorbance

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(Lambert-Beer law). The dilution of the enzyme must therefore be adjusted to fit this criterion. Under a specified set of conditions (temp., pH, reaction time, buffer conditions) 1 mg of a given alpha-amylase will hydrolyze a certain amount of substrate and a blue colour will be produced. The colour intensity is measured at 620 nm. The measured absorbance is directly proportional to the specific activity (activity/mg of pure alpha-amylase protein) of the alpha-amylase in question under the given set of conditions.

3.0

2. Alternative method

Alpha-amylase activity is determined by a method employing the FNP-G7 substrate. PNP-G7 which is a abbreviation for p-nitrophenyl-alpha,D-maltoheptaoside is a blocked oligosaccharide which can be cleaved by an endo-amylase. Following the cleavage, the alpha-Glucosidase included in the kit digest the substrate to liberate a free PNP molecule which has a yellow colour and thus can be measured by visible spectophometry at \(\lambda = 405 \text{nm} \) (400-420 nm). Kits containing FNP-G7 substrate and alpha-Glucosidase is manufactured by Boehringer-Mannheim (cat. No.1054635).

To prepare the reagent solution 10 ml of substrate/buffer solution is added to 50 ml enzyme/buffer solution as recommended by the manufacturer. The assay is performed by transferring 20 micro 1 sample to a 96 well microtitre plate and incubating at 25°C, 200 micro 1 reagent solution preequilibrated to 25°C is added. The solution is mixed and preincubated 1 minute and absorption is measured every 30 sec. over 4 minutes at 0D 405 nm in an ELISA reader.

36 The slope of the time dependent absorption-curve is directly proportional to the activity of the alpha-amylase in question under the given set of conditions.

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EXAMPLES

Example 1.

Construction, by error-prome PCR mutagenesis, of Bacillus licheniformis alpha-amylase variants having an improved stability at low pH, high temperature and low calcium ion concentration compared to the parent enzyme.

Error-prone PCR mutagenesis and library construction

To improve the stability at low pH and low calcium

concentration of the parent Bacillus licheniformis alphaamylase, error-prone PCR mutagenesis was performed. The
plasmid pDN1528 encoding the wild-type Bacillus licheniformis
alpha-amylase gene was utilized as template to amplify this
gene with primers: 22149: 5'-CGA TTG CTG ACG CTG TTA TTT GCG
'S (SEQID NO: 14) and 24814: 5'-GAT CAC CCG CGA TAC CGT C-3'
(SEQ ID NO: 15) under PCR conditions where increased error
rates leads to introduction of random point mutations. The PCR
conditions utilized were: 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 50 mM KCl, 4

mM MgCl2, 0.3 mM MnCl2, 0.1mM dGTP/dATP, 0.5 mM dTTP/dCTP, and

20 2.5 units Tag polymerase per 100 micro 1 reaction.

The resultant PCR fragment was purified on gel and used in a PCR-based multimerization step with a gel purified vector fragment created by PCR amplification of pDN1528 with primers #24: 5'-GAA TGT ATG TCG GCC GGC AAA ACG CCG GTG A-3' (SEQ ID NO: 16) and #27: 5'-GCC GCC GCT GCT GCA GAA TGA GGC AGC AAG-3' (SEQ ID NO:17) forming an overlap to the insert fragment. The multimerization reaction was subsequently introduced into B. subtilis (Shafikhani et al., Biotechniques, 23 (1997), 304-310).

3.0

Screening

The error-prone library described above was screened in the low pH filter assay (see "Materials & Methods"). Clones

testing positive upon rescreening was submitted to secondary screening for stability in the liquid assay described in Materials and Methods.

s Results:

Increased stability at pH 4.5, 5 ppm calcium incubated at 90°C

Name	wt	LE488	LE489	7.19.1	8.9.1
Mutations	-	D207V	K170Q	E132A	D207B
			D207V	D207V	E250G
			N280S		H406L
					L427I
Stabilityl	~	+	+	+	+

 A "+" indicates significant increase in stability relative to wild type.

10 Increased stability at pH 4.5, 5 ppm calcium incubated at 90°C

Name	7	1 r vo 4 0 n	1 2 20 4 40 40			·····
Iverna	wt	LE491	LB492	LE493	LB494	19.3.1
Mutations	~	DEON	T491	T49I	Q374R	N190F
		D207V	E132V	K176R	E385V	A209V
		L318M	V440A	D207V	Q393R	Q264S
				Y402F		
Stability1)	-	+	+	+	+	+

1) A "+" indicates significant increase in stability relative to wt.

Increased stability at pH 4.5, 5 ppm calcium incubated at 90°C

Name	wt	E132-1	D207-7	D207-6	E250-8
Mutations	-	E132P	D207L	D207G	E250F
Stabilityl	-	+	+	+	+
)					

15 1) A "+" indicates significant increase in stability relative to wt.

Example 2

Transfer, by site-directed mutagenesis, of a selection of mutations from Example 1 to a new (non-wild type) backbone to 5 improve stability at low pH and low calcium ion concentration compared to the parent enzyme.

Site-directed mutagenesis

Mutations from LE493 (K176R+D207V+Y402F) were transferred 10 to LE399 yielding LE495. This was performed by the overlap PCR method (Kirchhoff and Desrosiers, PCR Applications, 2 (1993), 301-304). 2 overlapping PCR fragments were generated by amplification of the LE399 template with the primers: Fragment A: #312 Mut176 5'-CCC GAA AGC TGA ACC GCA 15 TCT ATA GGT TTC AAG GGA AGA CTT GGG ATT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 18) (mutated codon indicated in bold) and #290 D207overlap 5'-AGG ATG GTC ATA ATC AAA GTC GG-3'(SEQ ID NO: 19); Pragment B: #313 Mut207 5'-CCG ACT TTG ATT ATG ACC ATC CTG TTG TCG TAG CAG AGA TTA AGA GAT GGG G-3' (SEQ ID NO: 20) and #314 Mut402 5'-20 CGA CAA TGT CAT GGT GGT CGA AAA AAT CAT GCT GTG CTC CGT ACG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 21). Fragments A and B were mixed in equimolar ratios and subsequently the full-length fragment was amplified with the external primers: #312 Mut176 and #314 Mut402. This fragment was used in a multimerization reaction with the 25 vector PCR fragment created with the primers #296 Y402multi 5'-TTT CGA CCA CCA TGA CAT TGT CG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 22) and #305 399Multi176 5'-TAT AGA TGC GGT TCA GCT TTC GGG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 23) on template LE399 as described above. The multimerization reaction was subsequently transformed into B. subtilis. Clones 30 were screened for stability in the assay mentioned above. The presence of the mutations from LE493 in several clones with increased stability was confirmed by sequencing.

LE 497 was obtained in a similar manner by amplifying the LE399 encoding template with primers #312 Mut176 and #214 Mut402 and using the resulting PCR fragment in a multimerization reaction with a vector fragment obtained by PCR amplification of the LE399 template with the primers #296 Y402multi and #305 399Multi176.

Results:

Stabilization of LE399 variant at pH 4.5. Sppm calcium to incubated at 90oC

Name :	LE399	LE495	LE497
Mutations	(backbone)	K176R D207V Y402P	K176R Y402F
Stability1)	-	+	+

A "+" indicates significant increase in stability relative to backbone.

CLAIMS

- A variant of a parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase, comprising an alteration at one or more positions selected
 from the group of:
 - 49, 60, 104, 132, 161, 170, 176, 179, 180, 181, 183, 200, 203, 204, 207, 212, 237, 239, 250, 280, 298, 318, 374, 385, 393, 402, 406, 427, 430, 440, 444, 447, 482, wherein
- 10 (a) the alteration(s) are independently
 - an insertion of an amino acid downstream of the amino acid which occupies the position,
 - (ii) a deletion of the amino acid which occupies the position, or
- 15 (iii) a substitution of the amino acid which occupies the position with a different amino acid,
- (b) the variant has alpha-amylase activity and (c) each position corresponds to a position of the amino acid sequence of the parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase having the amino 20 acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8.
- The variant of claim 1, which variant has one or more of the following mutations: T49I; D60N; N104D; E132A,V,P; D161N; K170Q; K176R; G179N; K180T; A181N; D183N; D200N; X203Y; D204S;
 D207V,E,L,G; X212I; K237P; S239W; E250G,F; N280S; X298Q; L318M; Q374R; E385V; Q393R; Y402F; H406L,W; L427I D430N; V440A; N444R,K; E447Q,K; Q482K using SEQ ID NO: 8 for the numbering.
- 3. The variant of claim 1 or 2, wherein the variant has the following mutations: K170Q+D207V+N280S; E132A+D207V; D207E+E250G+H406L+L427I; D207V+L318M; D60N+D207V+L318M; T49I+E132V+V440A; T49I+K176R+D207V+Y402F; Q374R+E385V+Q393R; N190F+A209V+Q264S; G48A+T49I+G107A+1201F; T49I+G107A+I201F;

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G48A+T49I+I201F; G48A+T49I+G107A; T49I+I201F; T49I+G107A; G48A+T49I;

N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+ H406W+D430N+N444K+E447Q+Q482K;

5 D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+ D430N+N444K+E4470+O482K:

D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+

D430N+N444K+E447Q+Q482K;

D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+

10 D430N+B447Q+Q482K;

N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+ H406W+D430N+E4470+Q482K;

D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+D430N+E44'7Q+Q482K;

15 N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+ H406W+D436N;

D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W+H406W+D430N;

H406W+D430N; N444K+E447Q+Q482K; E447Q+Q482K;

20 N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D20UN+D204S+K237P+S239W+ H406W+D430N+N444R+N444K+E447K+Q482K;

D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239N+H406W+D430N+N444R+N444K+E447K+Q482K;

N104D+D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W;

25 D161N+G179N+K180T+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W;

H406W+D430N; N444K+E447K+Q482K; B447K+Q482K;

N104D+D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P+S239W;

N104D+D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P;

N104D+D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S;

30 D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D2048+K237P+S239W;

D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S+K237P;

D161N+A181N+D183N+D200N+D204S; K237F+S239W, using SEQ ID NO: 8 for the numbering.

- 4. The variant of any of claims 1-3, wherein the parent Termanyl-like alpha-amylass is derived from a strain of B. licheniformis (SEQ ID NO: 8), B. amyloliquefaciens (SEQ ID NO: 5 10), B. stearothermophilus (SEQ ID NO: 6).
- 5. The variant of any of claims 1-4, wherein the parent Termamyl-like amylase is any of:
 LE174; LE174+G48A+T49I+G107A+I201F; LE174+M197L;
 LE174+G48A+T49I+G107A+M197L+I201F.
- The variant of claim 1, wherein the variant is mutated in one or more of the following positions: T511; D62N; N106D; D134A,V,P; D163N; X172Q; K179R; G184N; K185T; A186N; D188N;
 D205N; M208Y; D209S; X212V,E,L,G; L2171, K242P, S244W, N255G,F, N285S, S303Q, X323M; D387V, N395R; Y404F; H408L,W;
 X4291; D432N; V442A; X446R,K; X449Q,K; X484K, using SEQ ID NO: 4 (SP722) for the numbering.
- 7. The variant of claim 1 or 6, wherein the variant has the following mutations: E212V+N285S; D134A+E212V; N255G+H408L+X429I; E212V+X323M; D62N+E212V+X323M; T51I+D134V+V442A; T51I+K179R+E212V+Y404F; D387V+N395R; N195F+X212V+K269S, when using SEQ ID NO: 4 (SP722) for the numbering.
- 8. The variant of any of claims 1-7, wherein the parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase is selected from the group comprising: SP690 (SEQ ID NO: 2); SP722 (SEQ ID NO: 4; AA550 (SEQ ID NO: 12); #707 alpha-amylase (SEQ ID NO: 12); KSM-AP1378.

- 9. The variant of any of claims 1-8, wherein the parent Termanyl-like anylase is any of: SP722+D183*+G184*, SP722+D183*+G184*+N195F; SP722+D183*+G184*+M202L; SP722+D183*+G184*+N195F+M202L; BSG+I181*+G182*; BSG+I181*+G182*+M200L; BSG+I181*+G182*+M200L; BSG+I181*+G182*+M200L; AA560+D183*+G184*, AA560+D183*+G184*+N195F; AA560+D183*+G184*+N195F+M202L.
- 10 10. The variant of any of claims 1-9, wherein the parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase has an amino acid sequence which has a degree of identity to SEQ ID NO: 8 of at least 60%, preferably 70%, more preferably at least 80%, even more preferably at least about 90%, even more preferably at least 95%, even more preferably at least 95%, even more preferably at least 99%.
- 11. The variant of any of claims 1-10, wherein the parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence, which hydridizes under low, preferably medium, preferred high stringency conditions, with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.
- 12. The variant of any of claims 1-11, which variant has altered stability, in particular at high temperatures from 70- 25 120°C and/or low pH in the range from pH 4-6
 - 13. A DNA construct comprising a DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase variant according to any one of claims 1-12.
- 30 14. A recombinant expression vector which carries a DNA construct according to claim 13.

- 15. A cell which is transformed with a DNA construct according to claim 13 or a vector according to claim 14.
- 16. The cell according to claim 15, which is a microorganism, 5 preferably a bacterium or a fungus.
- 17. The cell according to claim 16, which cell is a grampositive bacterium, such as Bacillus subtilis, Bacillus
 licheniformis, Bacillus lentus, Bacillus brevis, Bacillus
 stearothermophilus, Bacillus alkalophilus, Bacillus
 amyloliquefaciens, Bacillus coagulans, Bacillus circulans,
 Bacillus lautus or Bacillus thuringiensis.
- 18. A composition comprising an alpha-amylase variant of any 15 of claims 1-12.
 - 19. The composition of claim 18, further comprising a B. stearothermophilus (BSG) alpha-amylase, in particular SP961, particular in a ratio of 1:10 to 10:1, preferably 1:2.

20

- 20. The composition of claim 18 or 19, wherein the composition further comprises a glucoamylase, pullulanase and/or a phytase.
- 25 21. A detergent composition comprising an alpha-amylase variant according to any of claims 1-12.
- 22. A detergent composition of claim 21, which additionally comprises another enzyme such as a protease, a lipase, a peroxidase, another amylolytic enzyme, glucoamylase, maltogenic amylase, CGTase, mannanase, cutinase, laccase and/or a cellulase.

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- 23. Use of an alpha-amylase variant according to any of claims 1-12 or a composition according to any of claims 18-20 for starch liquefaction.
- 5 24. Use of an alpha-amylase variant according to any of claims 1-12 or a composition according to claims 18-20 for ethanol production.
- 25. Use of an alpha-amylase variant according to any one of 10 claims 1-12 or a composition according to claims 18-20 for washing and/or dishwashing.
- 26. Use of an alpha-amylase variant of any one of claims 1-12 or a composition according to claims 18-20 for textile 15 desizing.

1/3

	1				50
1	HHNGINGIMM	QYFEWHLPND	GNHWNRLRDD	ASNLENEGIT	AIWIPPAWKG
2	HHNGTNGTMM	QYFEWYLPND	GNHWNRLRDD	AANLKSKGIT	AVWIPPAWKG
3	VNGTLM	QYFEWYTPND	GQHWKRLQND	ARHLSDIGIT	AVWIPPAYKG
4	ANLNGTLM	QYFEWYMPND	GQHWRRLQND	SAYLARHGIT	AVWIPPAYKG
5	.AAPFNGTMM	QYFEWYLPDD	GTLWTKVANE	ANNLSSLGIT	ALWLPPAYKG
	51				1.00
1	TEONDVGYGA	YDLYDLGEFN	OKGTVRTKYG	TREOLESAIH	ALKNINGVOVY
2	TSQNDVGYGA	YDLYDLGEFN	OKGTVRTKYG	TRNOLOAAVT	
3	LSOSDNGYGP	YDLYDLGEFO	QKGTVRTKYG	TKSELODAIG	SLHSRNVOVY
4	TSQADVGYGA	YDLYDLGEPH	OKGTVRTKYG		SLHSRDINVY
5	TSRSDVGYGV	YDLYDLGEFN	QKGTVRTKYG	TKAQYLQAIQ	AAHAAGMQVY
	101				150
1	GDVVMNHKGG	ADATENVLAV	EVNPNNRNQE	ISGDYTIEAW	TKFDFPGRGN
2	GDVVMNHKGG	ADGTEIVNAV	EVNRSNRNOE	TSGEYAIEAW	TKFDFPGRGN
3	GDVVLNHKAG	ADATEDVTAV	EVNPANRNOE	TSEEYOIKAW	TDFRFPGRGN
4	GDVVINHKGG	ADATEDVTAV	EVDPADRNRV	ISGEHLIKAW	THPHPPGRGS
5	ADVVFDHKGG	ADGTEWVDAV	EVNPSDRNQE	ISGTYQIQAW	TKFDPPGRGN
	151				200
1	TYSDPKWRWY	HFDGVDWDQS	ROPONRIYKE	RGDGKAWDWE	VDSENGNYDY
2	NHSSPKWRWY	HFDGTDWDQS	ROLONKIYKF	RGTGKAWDWE	VDTENGNYDY
3	TYSDFKWHWY	HFDGADWDES	RKI.SRIFKF	RGEGKAWDWE	VSSENGNYDY
4	TYSDFKWHWY	HFDGTDWDES	RKL NRIYKF	QGKAWDWE	VSNENGNYDY
5	TYSSFKWRWY	HFDGVDWDES	RKL.SRIYKF	RGIGKAWDWE	VDTENGNYDY

Fig. 1

	201				250
1	LMYADVDMDH	PEVVNELERW	GEWYTNTLNI	DGFRIDAVKH	TKYSPTRDWL
2	LMYADVDMDH	PEVIHELRNW	GVWYTNTLNL	DGFRIDAVKH	IKYSFTRDWL
3	LMYADVDYDH	PDVVARTKKW	GIWYANELSL	DGFRIDAAKH	IKFSFLRDWV
4	LMYADIDYDH	PDVAAEIKRW	GTWYANELOL	DGFRLDAVKH	IKFSFLRDWV
5	LMYADLDMDH	PBVVTBLKNW		DGFRLDAVKH	IKFSFFPDWL
	251				300
1	THVRNATGKE	MFAVAEFWKN	DLGALENYLN	KTNWNHSVFD	VPLHYNLYNA
2	THVRNTTGKP	MFAVAEFWKN	DLGAIENYLN	KTSWNHSAPD	VPLHYNLYNA
3	QAVRQATGKE	MFTVAEYWON	NAGKLENYLN	KTSFNOSVPD	VPLHFNLOAA
4	NHVREKTGKE	MFTVAEYWON	DLGALENYLN	KTNFNHSVFD	VPLHYOFHAA
5	SYVRSQTGKP	LFTVGEYWSY	DINKLHNYIT	KTDGTMSLFD	APLHNKFYTA
	301				350
3.	SNSGGNYDMA	KLLNGTVVQK	HPMHAVTFVD	NHDSOPGESL	ESFVQEWFKP
2	SNSGGYYDMR	NILNGSVVQK	HPTHAVTFVD	NHDSQPGEAL	BSFVQQWFKP
3	SSQGGGYDMR	RLLDGTVVSR	HPEKAVTFVE	NHDTQPGQSL	BSTVQTWFKP
4	STOGGGYDMR	KLLNGTVVSK	HPLKSVTFVD	NHDTOPGOSL	ESTVOTWFKP
5	SKSGGAFDMR	TLMTNTLMKD	QPTLAVTFVD	NHDTEPGQAL	QSWVDPWFKP
	351				400
1.	LAYALILTRE	QGYPSVFYGD	YYGIPTHS	.VPAMKAKID	PILEARQNFA
2	LAYALVLTRE	QGYPSVFYGD	YYGIPTHG	.VPAMKSKID	PLLQARQTFA
3	LAYAFILTRE	SGYPQVFYGD	MYGTKGTSPK	EIPSLKDNIE	PILKARKEYA
4	LAYAFILTRE	SGYPQVFYGD	MYGTKGDSQR	EIPALKHKIE	PILKARKQYA
5	LAYAFILTRQ	EGYPCVFYGD	YYGIPQYN	.IPSLKSKID	PLATARRDYA
	401				450
1.	YGTQHDYFDH	HNIIGWTREG	NTTHPNSGLA	TIMSDGPGGE	KWMYVGQNKA
2	YGTQHDYFDH	HDIIGWTREG	NSSHPNSGLA	TIMSDGPGGN	KWMYVGKNKA
3	YGPQHDYIDH	PDVIGWTREG	DSSAAKSGLA	ALITDGPGGS	KRMYAGLKNA
4	YGAQHDYFDH	HDIVGWTREG	DSSVANSGLA	ALITDGPGGA	KRMYVGRQNA
5	YGTOHDYLDH	SDIIGWTREG	GTEKPGSGLA	ALITDGPGGS	KWMYVGKOHA

Fig. 1 (continued)

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	451				500
1	GQVWHDITGN	KPGTVTINAD	GWANFSVNGG	SVSIWVKR	********
2	GQVWRDITGN	RTGTVTINAD	GWGNFSVNGG	SVSVWVKQ	* * * * * * * * * *
3	GETWYDITGN	RSDTVKIGSD	GWGEFHVNDG	SVSIYVQ	******
4	GETWHDITGN	RSEPVVINSE	GWGEFHVNGG	SVSIYVQR	
5	GKVFYDL/TGN	RSDTVTINSD	GWGEFKVNGG	SVSVWVPRKT	TVSTIARPIT
	501	515	9		
1					
2	* > * * * * * * * * *	******			
3		* * * * * * * * *			
4	********				
5	TRPWTGEFVR	WTEPRLVAW			

Fig. 1 (continued)

SEQUENCE LISTING ,

SEQUENCE LISTING

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			tIn	Ver.	2.1											
<21	0> 1 1> 1 2> 0 3> 8	455 NA acil	lus	sp.												
<22 <22 <22 <22	1> C 2> (DS 1) P690	(145	5)												
	0> 1 cat His	aat Asn	gga Gly	aca Thr	aat Asn	ggt Gly	act Thr	atg Met	atg Met 10	caa Gln	tat Tyr	ttc Phe	gaa Glu	tgg Trp 15	tat Tyr	48
ttg Leu	cca Pro	aat Asn	gac Asp 20	ggg Gly	aat Asn	cat His	tgg Trp	aac Asn 25	agg Arg	ttg Leu	agg Arg	gat Asp	gac Asp 30	gca Ala	gct Ala	96
aac Asn	tta Leu	aag Lys 35	agt Ser	aaa Lys	ggg Gly	ata Ile	aca Thr 40	gct Ala	gta Val	tgg Trp	atc Ile	cca Pro 45	cct Pro	gca Ala	tgg Trp	144
aag Lys	999 61y 50	act Thr	tcc ser	cag 61n	aat Asn	gat Asp 55	gta Val	ggt Gly	tat Tyr	gga Gly	gcc Ala 60	tat Tyr	gat Asp	tta Leu	tat Tyr	192
gat Asp 65	ctt Leu	gga Gly	gag Glu	ttt Phe	aac Asn 70	cag Gln	aag Lys	999 GTy	acg Thr	gtt Val 75	.cgt Arg	aca Thr	aaa Lys	tat Tyr	gga Gly 80	240
aca Thr	cgc Arg	aac Asn	cag Gln	cta Leu 85	cag Gln	gct Ala	gcg Ala	gtg Val	acc Thr 90	tct Sér	tta Leu	aaa Lys	aat Asn	aac Asn 95	ggc Gly	288
att Ile	cag Gln	gta Val	tat Tyr 100	ggt Gly	gat Asp	gtc Val	gtc Val	atg Met 105	aat Asn	cat His	aaa Lys	ggt Gly	gga Gly 110	gca Ala	gat Asp	336
ggt Gly	acg Thr	gaa Glu 115	att Ile	gta Val	aat Asn	gcg Ala	gta Val 120	gaa Glu	gtg val	aat Asn	cgg Arg	agc Ser 125	aac Asn	cga Arg	aac Asn	384
caġ Gln	gaa Glu 130	acc Thr	tca Ser	gga Gly	gag Glu	tat Tyr 135	gca Ala	ata Ile	gaa Glu	gcg Ala	Tgg Trp 140	aca Thr	aag Lys	ttt Phe	gat Asp	432
ttt Phe 145	cct Pro	gga GTy	aga Arg	gga Gly	aat Asn 150	aac Asn	cat His	tcc Ser	agc ser	ttt Phe 155	aag Lys	tgg Trp	cgc Arg	tgg Trp	tat Tyr 160	480
cat His	ttt Phe	gat Asp	999 GTy	aca Thr 165	gat Asp	tgg Trp	gat Asp	cag GIn	tca Ser 170	cgc Arg	cag Gln	ctt Leu	caa Gln	aac Asn 175	aaa Lys	\$28
ata	tat	aaa	ttc	agg	gga	aca	ggc	aag		tgg ge 1	gac	tgg	gaa	gtc	gat	576

Ile	Туг	Lys	Phe 180	Arg	Gly	Thr	Gly	SEC Lys 185	MENC Ala	E LI Trp	ASP	iG Trp	Glu 190	Val	Asp		
aca Thr	gag Glu	aat Asn 195	ggc GTy	aac Asn	tat Tyr	gac	tat Tyr 200	ctt Leu	atg Met	tat	gca	gac Asp 205	gtg Val	gat Asp	atg Met	624	
gat Asp	cac His 210	cca Pro	gaa Glu	gta Val	ata	cat His 215	gaa Glu	ctt Leu	aga Arg	aac Asn	tgg Trp 220	gga Gly	gtg Val	tgg Trp	tat Tyr	672	
acg Thr 225	aat Asn	aca Thr	ctg	aac Asn	ctt Leu 230	gat Asp	gga Gly	ttt Phe	aga Arg	ata 11e 235	gat Asp	gca Ala	gtg Val	aaa Lys	cat His 240	720	
ata Ile	aaa Lys	tat Tyr	agc Ser	ttt Phe 245	acg Thr	aga Arg	gat Asp	tgg Trp	ctt Leu 250	aca Thr	cat	gto Val	cgt Arg	aac Asn 255	acc Thr	768	
aca Thr	ggt Gly	aaa Lys	cca Pro 260	atg Met	ttt Phe	gca Ala	gtg Val	gct Ala 265	gag Glu	ttt Phe	tgg Trp	aaa Lys	aat Asn 270	gac Asp	ctt Leu	816	
ggt Gly	gca Ala	art Tle 275	gaa Glu	aac Asn	tat Tyr	ttg Leu	aat Asn 280	aaa Lys	aca Thr	agt Ser	tgg Trp	aat Asn 285	cac His	tcg Ser	gtg Val	864	
ttt Phe	gat Asp 290	gtt Val	cct Pro	ctc	cac His	tat Tyr 295	aat Asn	ttg Leu	tac Tyr	aat Asn	gca Ala 300	tct Ser	aat Asn	agc Ser	ggt Gly	912	
ggt Gly 305	tat Tyr	tat Tyr	gat Asp	atg Met	aga Arg 310	aat Asn	att Ile	tta Leu	aat Asn	ggt Gly 315	tct Ser	gtg Va i	gtg Val	caa Gln	aaa Lys 320	960	
cat His	cca Pro	aca Thr	cat His	gcc Ala 325	gtt Val	act Thr	ttt Phe	gtt Val	gat Asp 330	aac Asn	cat Hís	gat Asp	tct Ser	cag Gln 335	ccc Pro	1008	
999 Gly	gaa Glu	gca Ala	ttg Leu 340	gaa Glu	tcc Ser	ttt Phe	gtt Val	caa Gln 345	caa Gln	tgg Trp	ttt Phe	aaa Lys	cca Pro 350	ctt Leu	gca Ala	1056	
tat Tyr	gca Ala	ttg Leu 355	gtt Val	ctg Leu	aca Thr	agg Arg	gaa G1u 360	caa Gln	ggt Gly	tat Tyr	cct Pro	tcc Ser 365	gta val	ttt Phe	tat Tyr	1104	
						cca Pro 375										1152	
						cag Gln										1200	
cag Gln	cat Hís	gat Asp	tac Tyr	ttt Phe 405	gat Asp	cat His	cat His	gat Asp	att Ile 410	atc Ile	ggt Gly	tgg Trp	aca Thr	aga Arg 415	G]u gag	1248	
gga GTy	aat Asn	agc ser	tcc Ser 420	cat His	cca Pro	aat Asn	tca Ser	ggc Gly 425	ctt Leu	gcc Ala	acc Thr	att Ile	atg Met 430	tca Ser	gat Asp	1296	
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SEQUENCE LISTING

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Arg Lys Leu Leu Asn Gly Thr Val Val Ser Lys His Pro Leu Lys Ser

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Glu Pro Ile Leu Lys Ala Arg Lys Gln Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Gln His
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Val Gln Arg

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50 SS SEQUENCE LISTING

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tcg Ser	aat Asn	gga Gly	cct Pro	ggt Gly 430	ggt Gly	tcc Ser	aag Lys	tgg Trp	atg Met 435	tat Tyr	gta Val	gga Gly	cgt Arg	cag Gln 440	aat Asn		1575
gca Ala	gga Gly	caa Gìn	aca Thr 445	tgg Trp	aca Thr	gat Asp	tta Leu	act Thr 450	ggt Gly	aat Asn	aac Asn	gga Gly	9C9 Ala 455	tcc Ser	gtt Val	:	1.623
aca Thr	att Ile	aat Asn 460	ggc Gly	gat Asp	gga Gly	tgg Trp	ggc Gly 465	gaa Glu	ttc Phe	ttt Phe	acg Thr	aat Asn 470	gga Gly	gga Gly	tct Ser	;	1671
gta Val	tcc Ser 475	gtg Val	tac Tyr	gtg Val	aac Asn	caa G1n 480	taac	aaaa	ag c	cttg	agaa	ig gg	atto	ctcc		;	1.722
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SEQUENCE LISTING

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SEQUENCE LISTING

Ala Asp Gin Asp Leu Phe Val Val Gly Glu Tyr Trp Lys Asp Asp Val Gly Ala Leu Glu Phe Tyr Leu Asp Glu Met Asn Trp Glu Met Ser Leu 270 275 280 Phe Asp Val Pro Leu Asm Tyr Asm Phe Tyr Arg Ala Ser Glm Glm Gly 285 Gly Ser Tyr Asp Met Arg Asm Ile Leu Arg Gly Ser Leu Val Glu Ala 300 315 His Pro Met His Ala Val Thr Phe Val Asp Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro Gly Glu Ser Leu Glu Ser Trp Val Ala Asp Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala 335 340 345 Tyr Ala Thr Ile Leu Thr Arg Glu Gly Gly Tyr Pro Asn Val Phe Tyr 350 360 Gly Asp Tyr Tyr Gly Ile Pro Asn Asp Asn Ile Ser Ala Lys Lys Asp 365 375 Met Ile Asp Glu Leu Leu Asp Ala Arg Gln Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Thr 380 395 390 Gln His Asp Tyr Phe Asp His Trp Asp Val Val Gly Trp Thr Arg Glu 400 405 410 Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Pro Asn Ser Gly Leu Ala Thr Ile Met Ser Asn 415 420 425 Gly Pro Gly Gly Ser Lys Trp Met Tyr Val Gly Arg Gln Asn Ala Gly
430
430
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^{212&}gt; DNA 213> Bacillus licheniformis

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gct gaa ca Ala Glu Hi 35	ggt att ac s Gly Ile Th	gcc gtc tg Ala Val Tr 40	g att ccc p lle Pro	ccg gca tat Pro Ala Tyr 45	aag gga Lys Gly	564
acg agc ca Thr Ser Gl 50	a gcg gat gt n Ala Asp Va	ggc tac gg Gly Tyr Gl 55	t gct tac y Ala Tyr	gac ctt tat Asp Leu Tyr 60	gat tta Asp Leu	612
ggg gag tt Gly Glu Ph 65	t cat caa aa: a His Gln Ly: 70	ggg acg gt GTy Thr Va	t cog aca 1 Arg Thr 75	aag tac ggc Lys Tyr Gly	aca aaa Thr Lys 80	660
gga gag ct. Gly Glu Le	g caa tot go Gln Ser Ali 85	atc aaa ag i Ile Lys Se	t ctt cat r Leu His 90	tcc cgc gac Ser Arg Asp	att aac Ile Asn 95	708
gtt tac gg Val Tyr Gl	gat gtg gtg 7 Asp Val Va 100	atc aac cad lile Asn His 10	c aaa ggc s Lys Gly S	ggc gct gat Gly Ala Asp 110	gcg acc Ala Thr	756
gaa gat gt Glu Asp Va 11	acc gcg gti Thr Ala va	gaa gtc gar Glu Val Ası 120	t ccc gct p Pro Ala	gac cgc aac Asp Arg Asn 125	cgc gta Arg Val	804
att tca gg Ile ser Gl	gaa cac cta Glu His Led	att aaa gce i Ile Lys Ala 135	c tgg aca a Trp Thr	cat ttt cat His Phe His 140	ttt ccg Phe Pro	852
ggg cgc gg Gly Arg Gly 145	agc aca tao Ser Thr Tyr 150	agc gat tt: Ser Asp Phe	t aaa tgg e Lys Trp 155	cat tgg tac His Trp Tyr	cat ttt His Phe 160	900
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tat gat ta Tyr Asp Ty 19	ttg atg tai Leu Met Tyr	gee gae ate Ala Asp Ile 200	gat tat Asp Tyr	gac cat cct Asp His Pro 205	gat gtc Asp Val	1044
gca gca ga	ı att aag aga	tgg ggc act	tgg tat Page 34	gcc aat gaa	ctg caa	1.092

Ala	Ala 210	Glu	Ile	Lys	Arg	Trp 215	Gly	SEQ Thr	UENC Trp	E LI Tyr	STIN Ala 220	Asn	GTu	Leu	Gln		
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gtt Val	aca Thr	ttt Phe	gtc Val	gat Asp 325	aac Asn	cat His	gat Asp	aca Thr	cag G1n 330	ccg Pro	ggg Gly	caa Gln	tcg Ser	ctt Leu 335	gag Glu		1428
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acg Thr	aaa Lys 370	gga Gly	gac Asp	tcc Ser	cag Gln	cgc Arg 375	gaa Glu	att Ile	cct Pro	gcc Ala	ttg Leu 380	aaa Lys	cac His	aaa Lys	att Ile	į	1572
gaa G1u 385	ccg Pro	atc Ile	tta Leu	aaa Lys	gcg Ala 390	aga Arg	aaa Lys	GIn GIn	tat Tyr	gcg Ala 395	tac Tyr	gga Gly	gca Ala	cag Gln	cat His 400	;	1620
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tgg Trp	cat His 450	gac Asp	att Ile	acc Thr	gga G1y	aac Asn 455	cgt Arg	tcg Ser	gag Glu	ccg Pro	gtt Val 460	gtc Val	atc Ile	aat Asn	tcg Ser		1812
gaa Glu 465	ggc Gly	tgg Trp	gga Gly	gag Glu	ttt Phe 470	cac His	gta Val	aac Asn	ggc Gly	999 61y 475	tcg Ser	gtt Val	tca Ser	att Tle	tat Tyr 480	1	L860
ġtt	caa	aga	tag	aaga	igcag	iag a	ggac	ggat		ctga e 35	agga	aat	ccgt	ttt		2	L912

Val Gln Arg

treatett 1920